AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis system ~~according to claim 1~~ configured to be connectable to plural client terminals via a network, which supports analysis requested by each of the client terminals to knowledge accumulated in a knowledge database, comprising:

access control means for conducting user authentication to a client terminal requesting an access for permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal; and

knowledge analysis means for clustering knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database to create a cluster database in which each knowledge is classified into clusters defined based on a category, wherein

the knowledge analysis means has means for setting important words having priority in clustering at creation of the cluster database, and carrying out clustering to create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words, ~~wherein the knowledge analysis means has~~ and has means for storing analysis conditions used at creation of the cluster database.

5. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis system according to claim 4, wherein the knowledge analysis means has means for reading the stored analysis

conditions, and creating a new cluster database by use of analysis conditions which are changed from the stored analysis conditions.

6. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis system ~~according to claim 1,~~ configured to be connectable to plural client terminals via a network, which supports analysis requested by each of the client terminals to knowledge accumulated in a knowledge database, comprising:

access control means for conducting user authentication to a client terminal requesting an access for permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal; and

knowledge analysis means for clustering knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database to create a cluster database in which each knowledge is classified into clusters defined based on a category; wherein

the knowledge analysis means has means for setting important words having priority in clustering at creation of the cluster database, and ~~carries~~ carrying out clustering to create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words, ~~wherein~~ and the knowledge analysis means has means for creating a cluster database from the knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database on the basis of analysis conditions including important words, unnecessary words and synonymous words~~;~~, and re-analysis means for obtaining the analysis conditions, and carrying out clustering once again by use of the analysis conditions in which at least one ~~or more~~ of a set of the important words, a set of the unnecessary words and a set of the synonymous words are reset to recreate the cluster database and to replace the already-created cluster database.

7. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis system according to claim 6, wherein the re-analysis means further comprises cluster setting means for prompting

the client terminal to set to-be-recreated clusters ~~to be objectives of recreation among~~ of

the clusters contained in the already-created cluster database, and carrying out the re-

clustering on the clusters set by the client terminal.

8. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis system ~~according to claim 1,~~

configured to be connectable to plural client terminals via a network, which supports

analysis requested by each of the client terminals to knowledge accumulated in a

knowledge database, comprising:

access control means for conducting user authentication to a client terminal

requesting an access for permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal; and

knowledge analysis means for clustering knowledge accumulated in the

knowledge database to create a cluster database in which each knowledge is classified

into clusters defined based on a category; wherein

the knowledge analysis means has means for setting important words having

priority in clustering at creation of the cluster database, and carrying out clustering to

create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words, and wherein in the

clustering, the knowledge analysis means determines a hierarchical structure defining

hierarchical relation of one knowledge ~~piece~~ and another knowledge ~~piece among the~~

~~knowledge~~, and also determines clusters to which the ~~respective knowledge pieces~~ one

knowledge and the another knowledge belong.

9. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis system ~~according to claim 1,~~

configured to be connectable to plural client terminals via a network, which supports

analysis requested by each of the client terminals to knowledge accumulated in a

knowledge database, comprising:

access control means for conducting user authentication to a client terminal

requesting for access for permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal; and

knowledge analysis means for clustering knowledge accumulated in the

knowledge database to create a cluster database in which each knowledge is classified

into clusters defined based on a category; wherein

the knowledge analysis means has means for setting important words having

priority in clustering at creation of the cluster database, and carrying out clustering to

create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words, and ~~wherein~~ the

knowledge analysis means prompts a user to input clustering conditions including at

least one of an analysis result name, an analysis objective period, a focusing keyword,

a number of focused cases, a number of hierarchies of hierarchical structure defining

hierarchical relation of one knowledge ~~piece~~ and another knowledge ~~piece among the~~

~~knowledge~~, a presence or absence of redundancy of knowledge, and a number of most

significant clusters to carry out clustering on the basis of the input clustering conditions.

10. A knowledge analysis system ~~according to claim 1,~~ configured to be

connectable to plural client terminals via a network, which supports analysis requested

by each of the client terminals to knowledge accumulated in a knowledge database,

comprising:

access control means for conducting user authentication to a client terminal

requesting an access for permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal; and

knowledge analysis means for clustering knowledge accumulated in the

knowledge database to create a cluster database in which each knowledge is classified

into clusters defined based on a category; wherein

the knowledge analysis means has means for setting important words having priority in clustering at creation of the cluster database, and carrying out clustering to create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words, and ~~wherein the knowledge analysis means further comprises~~ editing processing means for editing the already-created cluster database and making the client terminal display ~~the~~ an edited cluster database, and

the editing processing means prompts the client terminal to input editing conditions including ~~at least one of~~ a presence or absence of at least one of a cluster list display, ~~presence or absence of~~ a time series display, ~~presence or absence of~~ a hierarchical structure display, and ~~presence or absence of~~ a graph display, and edits the ~~client~~ cluster database on the basis of the editing conditions input by the client terminal, and makes the client terminal display an editing processing ~~results~~ including at least one of the cluster list display, the time series display, the hierarchical structure display, and the graph display.

11-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis method ~~according to claim 11, further comprising:~~ for supporting analysis requested from plural client terminals to knowledge accumulated in a knowledge database, comprising:

conducting user authentication to a client terminal requesting an access for permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal;

clustering knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database to create a cluster database in which each knowledge is classified into clusters defined based on a

category; in the creation of the cluster database, important words having priority in

clustering being set to create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words; and

storing analysis conditions used in the creation of the cluster database.

15. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis method ~~according to claim 11,~~

~~further comprising:~~ for supporting analysis requested from plural client terminals to

knowledge accumulated in a knowledge database, comprising:

conducting user authentication to a client terminal requesting an access for

permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal;

clustering knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database to create a cluster

database in which each knowledge is classified into clusters defined based on a

category; in the creation of the cluster database, important words having priority in

clustering being set to create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words;

at creation of the cluster database, creating the cluster database from the

knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database on the basis of analysis conditions

including important words, unnecessary words and synonymous words, and

obtaining the analysis conditions, and carrying out clustering once again by use

of the analysis conditions in which at least one ~~or more~~ of a set of the important words,

~~and~~ a set of the unnecessary words and a set of the synonymous words are reset to

recreate the cluster database and to replace the already-created cluster database.

16. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis method ~~according to claim 11,~~

for supporting analysis requested from plural client terminals to knowledge accumulated

in a knowledge database, comprising:

conducting user authentication to a client terminal requesting an access for

permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal;

clustering the knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database to create a

cluster database in which each knowledge is classified into clusters defined based on a

category, where in the creation of the cluster database, important words having priority

in clustering being set to create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words;

and wherein in the clustering, a hierarchical structure defining hierarchical relation of

one knowledge ~~piece~~ and another knowledge ~~piece among the knowledge~~ is

determined, and clusters to which the ~~respective~~ one knowledge ~~pieces~~ and the another

knowledge belong are determined.

17. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis method ~~according to claim 11,~~

~~further comprising:~~ for supporting analysis requested from plural client terminals to

knowledge accumulated in a knowledge database, comprising:

conducting user authentication to a client terminal requesting an access for

permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal;

clustering knowledge accumulated in the knowledge database to create a cluster

database in which each knowledge is classified into clusters defined based on a

category; in the creation of the cluster database, important words having priority in

clustering being set to create an axis of cluster on the basis of the important words;

prompting the client terminal to input editing conditions including ~~at least one of~~ a

presence or absence of at least one of a cluster list display, ~~presence or absence of~~ a

time series display, ~~presence or absence of~~ a hierarchical structure display, and

~~presence or absence of~~ a graph display; and

editing the already-created ~~client~~ cluster database on the basis of the editing

conditions input by the client terminal to make the client terminal display an editing

processing results including at least one of the cluster list display, the time series

display, the hierarchical structure display, and the graph display.

18 (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis program product ~~according to~~

~~claim 18, further comprising:~~ which supports a computer system for analyzing

knowledge accumulated in a knowledge database, comprising:

a recording medium;

a first program code which is recorded in the recording medium to assign the

computer system a command to carry out user authentication to a client terminal

requesting an access for permitting knowledge analysis from the client terminal;

a second program code which is recorded in the recording medium to assign the

computer system a command to create a cluster database used for knowledge analysis

from each terminal whose access is permitted, for classifying each knowledge

accumulated in the knowledge database into clusters defined based on a category;

a third program code which is recorded in the recording medium to assign the

computer system a command to carry out analysis condition setting procedures to set

important words having priority in clustering, unnecessary words to be ignored in

clustering, and synonyms to be handled as synonymous words in clustering, at creation

of the cluster database; and

a fourth program code which is recorded in the recording medium to assign the computer system a command to carry out analysis condition saving procedures to save the analysis conditions used at creation of the cluster database.

20. (Currently Amended) A knowledge analysis program product according to claim 19, further comprising:

a fifth program code which is recorded in the recording medium to assign to the computer system a command to create the cluster databases from the knowledge accumulated in the knowledge data on the basis of analysis conditions of important words and unnecessary words and synonymous words, and

a sixth program code which is recorded in the recording medium to assign to the computer system a command to obtain the analysis conditions used at creation of the cluster database and to re-create the cluster database by use of analysis conditions after at least one or more of a set of the important words, and a set of the unnecessary words and a set of the synonymous words are is reset and replace the already-created cluster database.

21. (Canceled)